

APPENDIX IV
DETERMINATION-OF-ELIGIBILITY FORMS

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name N/A

other names/site number Middle Leipsic River Valley Archaeological District
Sites 7K-C-194, 7K-C-194A, 7K-C-195, 7K-C-203**2. Location**street & number _____ ☐ not for publication
city, town Smyrna ☒ vicinity
state Delaware code DE county Kent code 001 zip code N/A**3. Classification**

Ownership of Property

- ☒
- private
-
- ☐
- public-local
-
- ☐
- public-State
-
- ☐
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- ☐
- building(s)
-
- ☒
- district
-
- ☐
- site
-
- ☐
- structure
-
- ☐
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
_____	_____ buildings
4	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
4	_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register _____**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this
☐ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined eligible for the National
Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.
- ☐ removed from the National Register.
- ☐ other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper _____

Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Archaeology - prehistoric

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

none

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation

walls

roof

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The multi-component district consists of four prehistoric sites, 7K-C-194, 7K-C-194A, 7K-C-195, and 7K-C-203, lying on bluffs on the north and south banks of the Leipsic River between Smyrna and Dover, Delaware. The first three sites are contiguous except for their separation by ephemeral streams. Site 7K-C-203 lies on the opposite bank across the Leipsic River floodplain from 7K-C-194A and 7K-C-195. The district's limits are defined by the limits of the surface collected artifacts found at 7K-C-194, 7K-C-194A, and 7K-C-195 and the combination of excavation data and soil and landform data for 7K-C-203. The north bank sites are all contained in plowed fields and the nominated section of 7K-C-203 lies entirely within an historically unplowed woodlot.

All sites except 7K-C-194A were initially identified in 1985 during a pedestrian survey of the Leipsic drainage by UDCAR (Custer, Bachman, and Grettler 1986). Site 7K-C-194A was found during a later UDCAR pedestrian survey of the same drainage (Bachman, Grettler, and Custer 1988). Later subsurface excavation by UDCAR revealed intact cultural deposits dating to the Woodland I (3000 B.C. - A.D. 975) and Woodland II (A.D. 975 - 1600) Periods. Each site was excavated separately and the the investigation resulted in the nomination of all four sites as a district.

Site 7K-C-194 produced Woodland I stemmed bifaces in excavation units and surface-collected flakes and fire-cracked rock over an area measuring several acres. Site 7K-C-195 yielded an argillite Woodland I stemmed point from an excavation unit and a Woodland I argillite Koens-Crispin broadpoint, Woodland II Killens Ware sherds, and nondiagnostic cores, flakes, and fire-cracked rock from the surface.

Site 7K-C-194A was the most intensely excavated site on the north bank and revealed several features, feature clusters, activity areas, and associated artifacts from the Woodland I Period. One large pit (Feature 1) contained Wolfe Neck ceramics and a hearth and is thought to be a Wolfe Neck Complex (500 B.C.-

☒ See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2

0 A.D.) house pit. A second partially excavated large house pit (Feature 17) contained flakes and Marcey Creek ceramics and is representative of the Barker's Landing Complex of 1200 B.C. - 900 B. C. A living floor and associated hearth (Feature 16) was also datable to the Barker's Landing Complex, as additional Marcey Creek ceramics and contracting stem points were found in the undisturbed subsoil adjacent to the hearth. It would be noted that no Wolfe Neck or Barker's Landing Complex house pits have ever been excavated on the Delmarva Peninsula. In addition, artifacts representing other complexes were found in the plowzone of several units, including Coulbourn ceramics from the Woodland I Delmarva Adena Complex of 500 B.C. - 0 A.D. and triangular points and Townsend ceramics from the Woodland II Slaughter Creek Complex.

The nominated section of 7K-C-203 consists of a 12 acre woodlot on the south bank of the Leipsic River. Historically unplowed, the woodlot produced diagnostic artifacts, including a stemmed point in one unit and flakes, charcoal, and fire-cracked rock in over half of the remaining 41 shovel test pits and square test units employed in the Phase II testing. In some of the units, artifacts were found to a depth of 60 cm below the surface and although no features were found at 7K-C-203, the quantity of artifacts, their depth, and the undisturbed nature of the subsoil suggest that features may be found at the site.

The utilization of non-local lithic materials argillite and rhyolite and their place in the technology and social structure of the inhabitants could be explored by study of this district. About 35% of the bifaces from the 4 sites are made of these non-local materials, while only 5% of the debitage is non-local. The implication is that tools of these materials were manufactured elsewhere and brought onto the site as middle or late stage bifaces. Argillite is heavily utilized in the St. Jones and Murderkill drainages 12-15 miles to the south but its use is not well documented in the Leipsic drainage. One clue may come from site 7K-C-255, about 2.0 miles downstream from the nominated district. A large pit feature, partially excavated by UDCAR in 1985 (Custer, Bachman, and Grettler 1986) produced over 200 large argillite flakes and may have been a primary reduction and processing site for local argillite usage.

Finally, charcoal from several features at 7K-C-194A has been recovered and is likely to produce data on wood use and nut consumption as well as radiocarbon dates.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☒ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Archaeology - Prehistoric

Period of Significance

Woodland I/II

Significant Dates

3000 B.C. -
A.D. 1600

Cultural Affiliation

Barker's Landing, Delmarva Adena, Wolfe
Neck, Minguannan, and Slaughter Creek
Complexes

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Middle Leipsic River National Register District is significant because it has yielded or is likely to yield information contributing to the understanding of settlement patterns, intra-site organization including house types and configuration and other pit feature types and their distribution, non-local and local lithic procurement and utilization, and the utilization of floral and faunal species by prehistoric peoples. It can also provide radiocarbon dates for the Barker's Landing, Wolfe Neck, Delmarva Adena, Minguannan, and Slaughter Creek Complexes of the Woodland I and II Periods of Delaware Prehistory. Generally, it can serve to fill in a gap in the understanding of local prehistory between the pre-ceramic broadpoint using peoples and the later Woodland I cultures.

Before 1985, very few prehistoric sites were recorded from the Leipsic River drainage, which extends for about twenty river miles from its headwaters to its mouth on the Delaware Bay. The 1985 UDCAR survey of the middle and upper sections of the drainage resulted in the identification and location of over 130 new sites. However, all of these are known from pedestrian survey or very limited subsurface excavation. The sites comprising this district are the first intensively excavated sites in the drainage and the Barker's Landing and Wolfe Neck Complex house pits (Feature 17 and 1, respectively) are the first representatives of those complexes to be excavated on the Delmarva Peninsula. The activity area and hearth (Feature 16) containing nut and wood charcoal, Marcey Creek ceramics, and small stemmed points demonstrate that the pits can produce information about specialized work areas, food processing areas, food storage, artifact manufacture and curation, and other aspects of intrasite organization and utilization. No radiocarbon dates have been obtained for steatite-tempered ceramics recovered on the Delmarva Peninsula and these would be the first.

☒ See continuation sheet

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

The sites' size and internal characteristics suggest they are macro- or microband base camps. Their excavation would likely improve our understanding of these site types and the characteristics of each for this time period.

Finally, the study of the procurement and utilization of local and non-local lithic materials in this drainage can also be compared to one other site in the drainage (7K-C-255) and to other sites in the St. Jones and Murderkill drainages farther south in Delaware.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Bachman, David C., David J. Grettler, and Jay F. Custer
1988 Phase I Archaeological Survey of the Early Action Segment of the Route 13 Corridor, Delaware. DelDOT Archaeology Series No. 69, Dover.
- Custer, Jay F.
1984 Delaware Prehistoric Archaeology, An Ecological Approach. University of Delaware Press, Newark.
- Custer, Jay F., David C. Bachman, and David J. Grettler
1986 An Archaeological Planning Survey of Selected Portions of the Proposed Route 13 Corridor, Kent County, Delaware. DelDOT Archaeology Series No. 45, Dover.

☐ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acres of property Two sections of district comprise 57 acres

UTM References

A 18 4 4 9 4 3 8 4 3 4 3 9 2 0
Zone Easting Northing

C 18 4 4 9 9 0 0 4 3 4 3 8 4 0

B 18 4 4 9 5 9 0 4 3 4 3 9 4 0
Zone Easting Northing

D 18 4 5 0 5 9 0 4 3 4 3 9 2 0

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Section 1: Beginning a point A, procede 83 degrees NE 650 ft. to point B; thence 110 degrees SE 1075 ft. to point C, thence NE 88½ degrees 2450 ft. to point D, thence 204 degrees SW 250 ft. to point E, thence 255½ degrees SW 2230 ft. to point F, thence 279 degrees NW 1600 ft. to point G, thence 330 degrees NW 625 ft. to place of beginning, containing 46 acres more or less. (Figure 1)

☒ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The limits of the district correspond to the distribution of the cultural materials found in the pedestrian survey and corroborated by the subsurface testing. The southern, eastern, and western limits of 7K-C-194, 7K-C-194A, and 7K-C-195 are defined by the Leipsic River floodplain and the floodplains of the tributaries which flow along the edge of the district. The boundary for 7K-C-203 is defined by

☒ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title David C. Bachman, Research Associate III

organization University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research date July 26, 1989

street & number Anthropology Dept., 101 Ewing Hall telephone 302-451-6590

city or town Newark state DE zip code 19716

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 2

UTM References (cont.)

<u>E</u>	Z - 18,	E - 450580,	N - 4343880
<u>F</u>	Z - 18,	E - 449960,	N - 4343710
<u>G</u>	Z - 18,	E - 449760,	N - 4343760
<u>H</u>	Z - 18,	E - 450430,	N - 4343670
<u>I</u>	Z - 18,	E - 450465,	N - 4343640
<u>J</u>	Z - 18,	E - 450110,	N - 4343340
<u>K</u>	Z - 18,	E - 450085,	N - 4343360

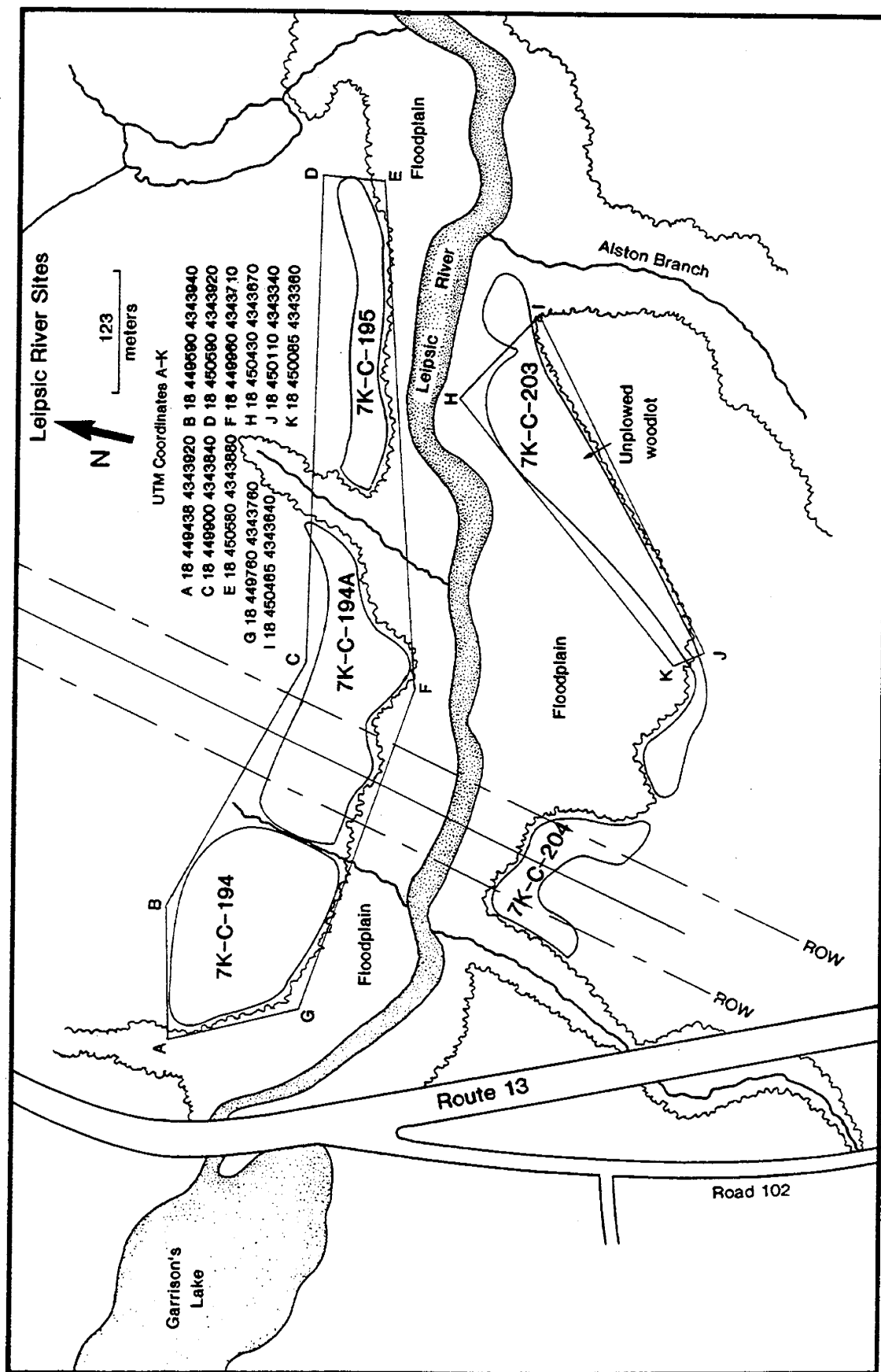
Verbal Boundary Description (cont.)

Section 2: Beginning at point H, procede 125 degrees SE 475 ft. to point I, thence 233 degrees SW 1675 ft. to point J, thence 319 degrees NW 125 ft. to point K, thence 37½ degrees NE 1580 ft. to the place of beginning, containing 11 acres more or less.

Boundary Justification (cont.)

the bluff edge on the north and east sides and by the limit of intact artifact-bearing soils on the south and west sides.

FIGURE 1
National Register Nomination



United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
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1. Name of Property

historic name _____

other names/site number 7K-C-360 _____

2. Location

street & number Rd. 345 _____

☒ not for publication

city, town Cheswold _____

☒ vicinity

state Delaware _____

code DE _____

county Kent _____

code 001 _____

zip code 19936 _____

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

- ☐ building(s)
☐ district
☒ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

1

1

Noncontributing

_____ buildings
_____ sites
_____ structures
_____ objects
_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 0**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this
☐ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National
Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.
☐ removed from the National Register.
☐ other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper _____

Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Landscape: unoccupied land

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation

walls

roof

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Site 7K-C-360 is located on an unplowed sandy knoll in a wooded area near Cheswold in northeastern Kent County, Delaware (Figure 1). The knoll is approximately 61m x 23m in size and is aligned in a north-south direction. The site is 30m x 40m in dimension and is located on the northern half of the knoll. To the east and west, the knoll drops off steeply to seasonally inundated low swampy areas. Site limits were determined based on topographic features and artifact distributions (Figure 2).

The site was discovered in 1987 during Phase I testing for the U. S. 13 Relief Route when several flakes were recovered by shovel testing at the site. Phase II testing conducted in 1990 consisted of 33 1m x 1m units. Diagnostic artifacts recovered included: a complete jasper contracting stem point, a bifurcate projectile point of local jasper, and a base of a possible Kirk point. These artifacts date to the Archaic and Woodland I time periods (6500 B.C. to 1000 A.D.). Other artifacts recovered include debitage, fire-cracked rock, scrapers, several flake tools and several cores. Three features were located by Phase II testing. Two were concentrations of fire-cracked rock. The third was probably a chipping feature, as almost all artifacts from that area, including a primary flake and a core, were a gray-green quartzite. The Phase II testing also located an area with a high density of artifacts (Figure 3). Most artifacts were recovered from an intact yellow-brown silty sand soil at depths ranging between 20 cm to 40 cm below the modern ground surface. This yellow brown silty soil becomes redder with depth and is underlain by either a gray stained clay or a red sand with gravels presumably of Pleistocene age. In several units, artifacts were found all the way down to this soil change at depths of 90cm - 110cm below surface. The soil stratigraphy indicates that the site has not been disturbed and that the artifact distributions are in good context.

☐ See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☐ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☒ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Archaeology: prehistoric

Period of Significance

Archaic

Woodland I

Significant Dates

6500 BC - 3000 B

3000 BC - AD 100

Cultural Affiliation

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Site 7K-C-360 is significant because it is unplowed and has produced Early and Middle Archaic artifacts in good stratigraphic context. The association of features with the Early and Middle Archaic artifacts, the intact stratigraphic context of the artifacts and features, and the presence of local freshwater wetlands, which are good sources of information on local paleoenvironments, all combine to make Site 7K-C-360 likely to yield important information on the poorly known Early and Middle Archaic Periods.

Early and Middle Archaic sites have been identified previously on the Delmarva Peninsula (Custer 1984, 1989; Cresthull 1969, 1975), but all of the known sites, with the exception of the Dover Downs Site (7K-C-365A), are disturbed surface sites with no stratigraphic context. Prior studies of Early and Middle Archaic lifeways and adaptations (Custer 1984, 1989) have suggested that there is considerable continuity running from the Paleo-Indian Period (ca. 12,000 - 10,500 B.P.) through the Early Archaic Period (ca. 10,500 - 8500 B.P.), and into the Middle Woodland Period (ca. 8500 - 5000 B.P.). This continuity of lifeways is related to adaptations to the spruce and hemlock forests which dominated the environments of the Delmarva Peninsula during this time period. Because Site 7K-C-360 contains both Middle and Early Archaic components, it will be possible to compare the uses of the site during these two time periods to test ideas about continuities in prehistoric adaptations and lifeways.

The presence of chipping features produced by the manufacturing of stone tools will allow the study of tool production strategies. The presence of hearth features will allow the possible recovery of prehistoric food remains and other

☒ See continuation sheet

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

ecofacts which will allow the study of prehistoric diets. Furthermore, the ecofacts from the site will provide data on the environments surrounding the site during the prehistoric past. Pollen and sediment cores can also be taken from the adjacent freshwater wetlands to study local environments and the combination of the ecofacts from the sites and the pollen data from local cores provides an excellent data base for the study of local paleoenvironments. Knowledge of these paleoenvironments during the time periods of the site's occupation will also enhance the study of continuities in prehistoric adaptations and lifeways.

The stratigraphic data alone from the site are also important sources of paleoenvironmental interpretations. Most of the artifacts found at Site 7K-C-360 are found at depths between 20cm and 40cm below modern ground surface and some artifacts are buried as deeply as 1m. The site location on a sandy knoll precludes any source of sediment deposition other than by aeolian processes. For such aeolian deposition, significant denudation of the local vegetation is necessary, implying that there were major episodes of dry climates in the local area during the past 10,000 years. The stratigraphy of Site 7K-C-360, which can be dated by the presence of artifacts and cultural features, provides data on the timing of the episodes of dry climate and vegetation denudation in the local area that can be compared to paleoenvironmental data from local pollen cores and ecofacts at the site. Further study of the site's stratigraphy will also allow a refinement of the chronology of environmental change in the local area. The results of such studies can also be compared to similar efforts at other sites, such as the nearby Dover Downs Site (7K-C-365A), where similar studies are underway.

In sum, Site 7K-C-360 has the potential to yield significant data on a variety of research topics concerning the adaptations and lifeways of Early and Middle Archaic groups and will also yield significant data on paleoenvironments of the Early and Middle Holocene periods.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Cresthull, Paul

1969 Bifurcate Base and Other Early Archaic Points in Northern Maryland. Maryland Archeology 5(2):39-49.

1975 A Sample of Early Archaic Notched Points. Maryland Archaeology 11(2):12-24.

Custer, Jay F.

1984 Delaware Prehistoric Archaeology: An Ecological Approach. University of Delaware Press, Newark.

1989 Prehistoric Cultures of the Delmarva Peninsula: An Archaeological Study. University of Delaware, Newark.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

☐ See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property .25

UTM References

A

1	8	4	5	1	7	0	0	4	3	4	1	0	0	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

C

Zone			Easting					Northing						

B

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D

Zone			Easting					Northing						

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The dimensions of the site are as follows: Point A to Point B is 95', Point B to Point C is 75', Point C to Point D is 50', Point D to Point E is 35', Point E to Point F is 40', and Point F to Point A is 35'(Figure 2).

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The northern and southern limits of the site are determined by artifact concentrations. The east and west boundaries were determined by bay/basin features on both sides of the site.

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

Researcher name/title Colleen De Santis Leithren, JoAnn Jamison, Jay F. Custer

organization University of Delaware Center for Archaeological date March 6, 1990

street & number 101 Ewing Hall telephone (302) 451-1193

city or town Newark state Delaware zip code 19716

FIGURE 1
7K-C-360 Site Location

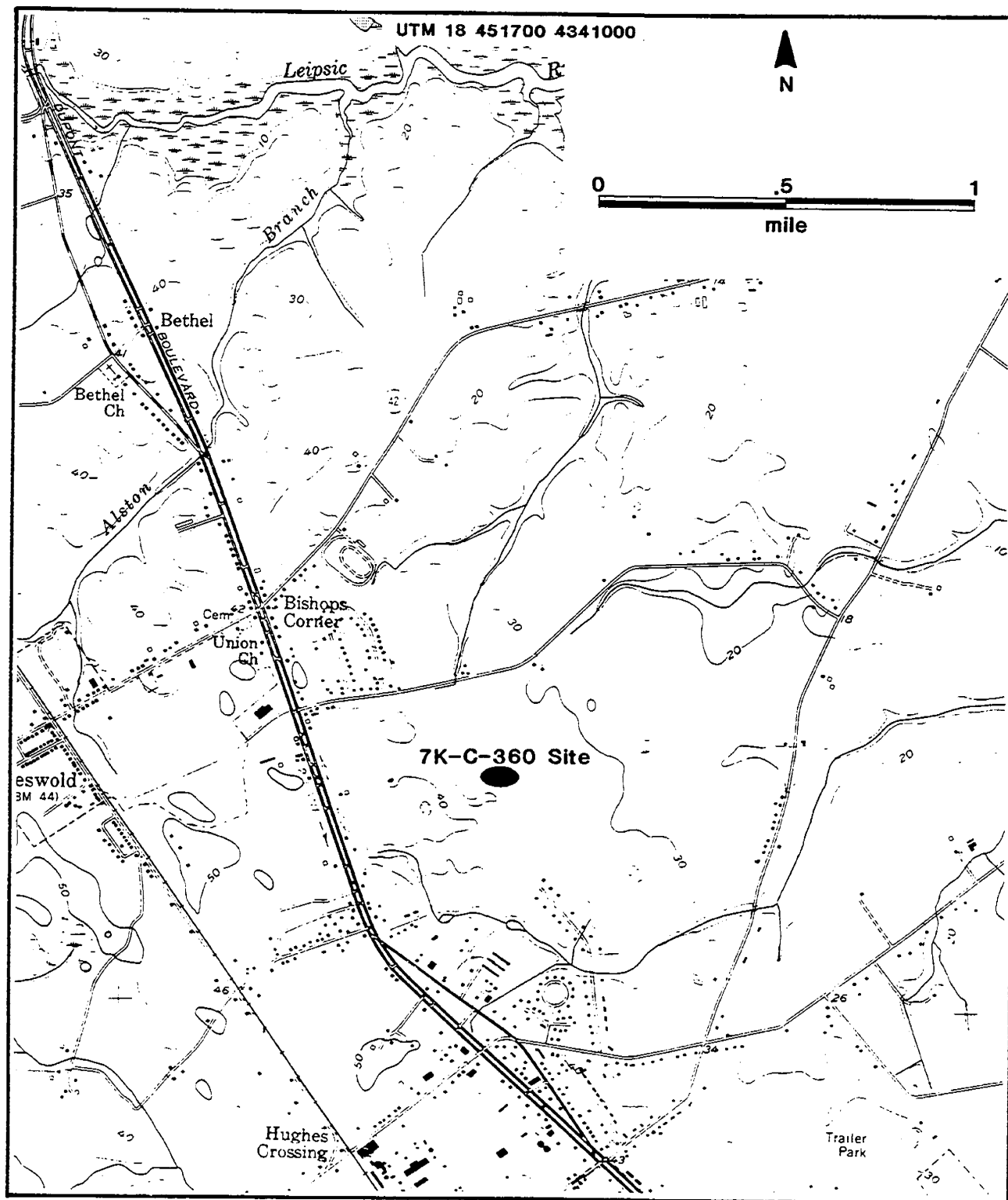


FIGURE 2
7K-C-360 Site Dimensions

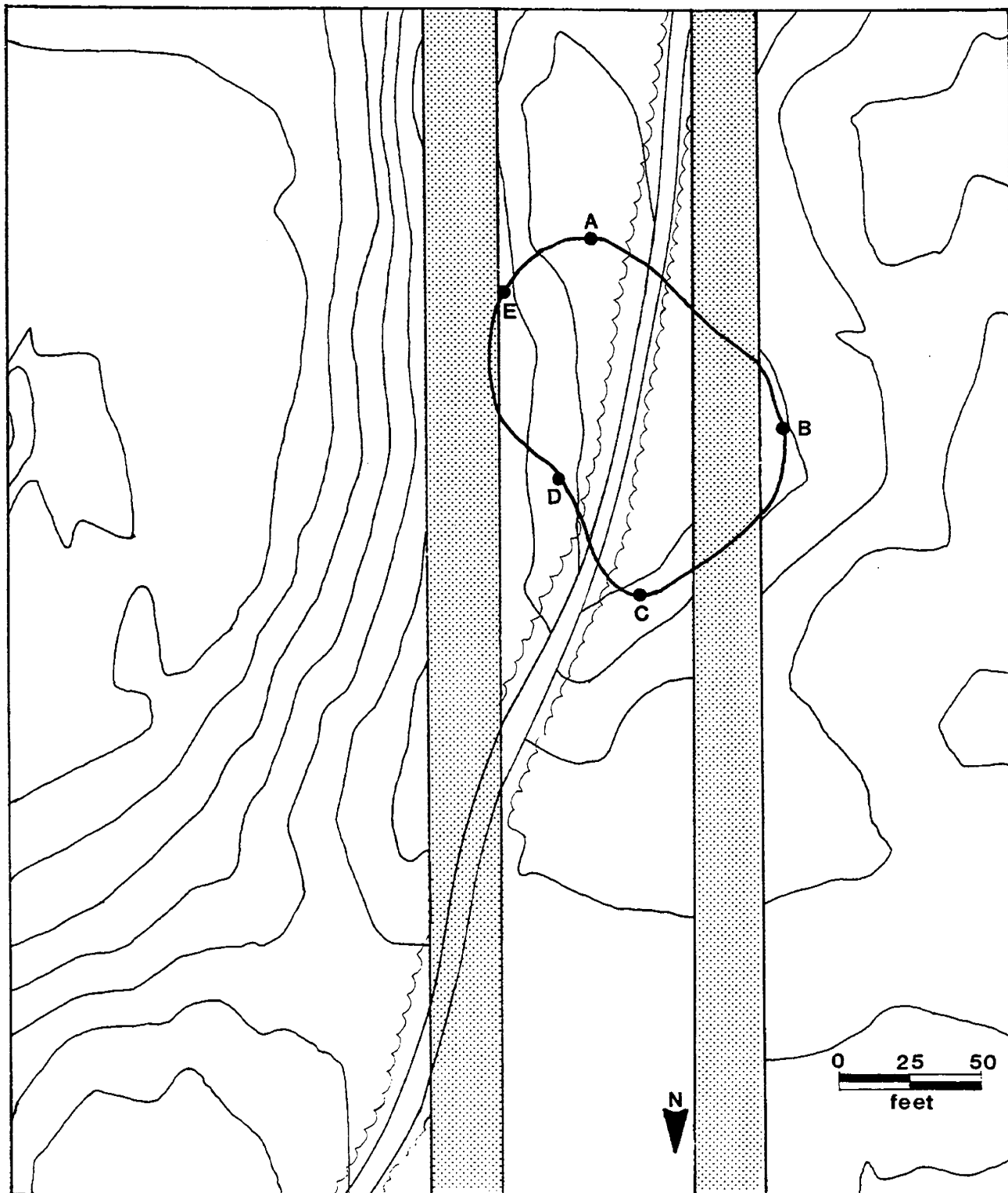
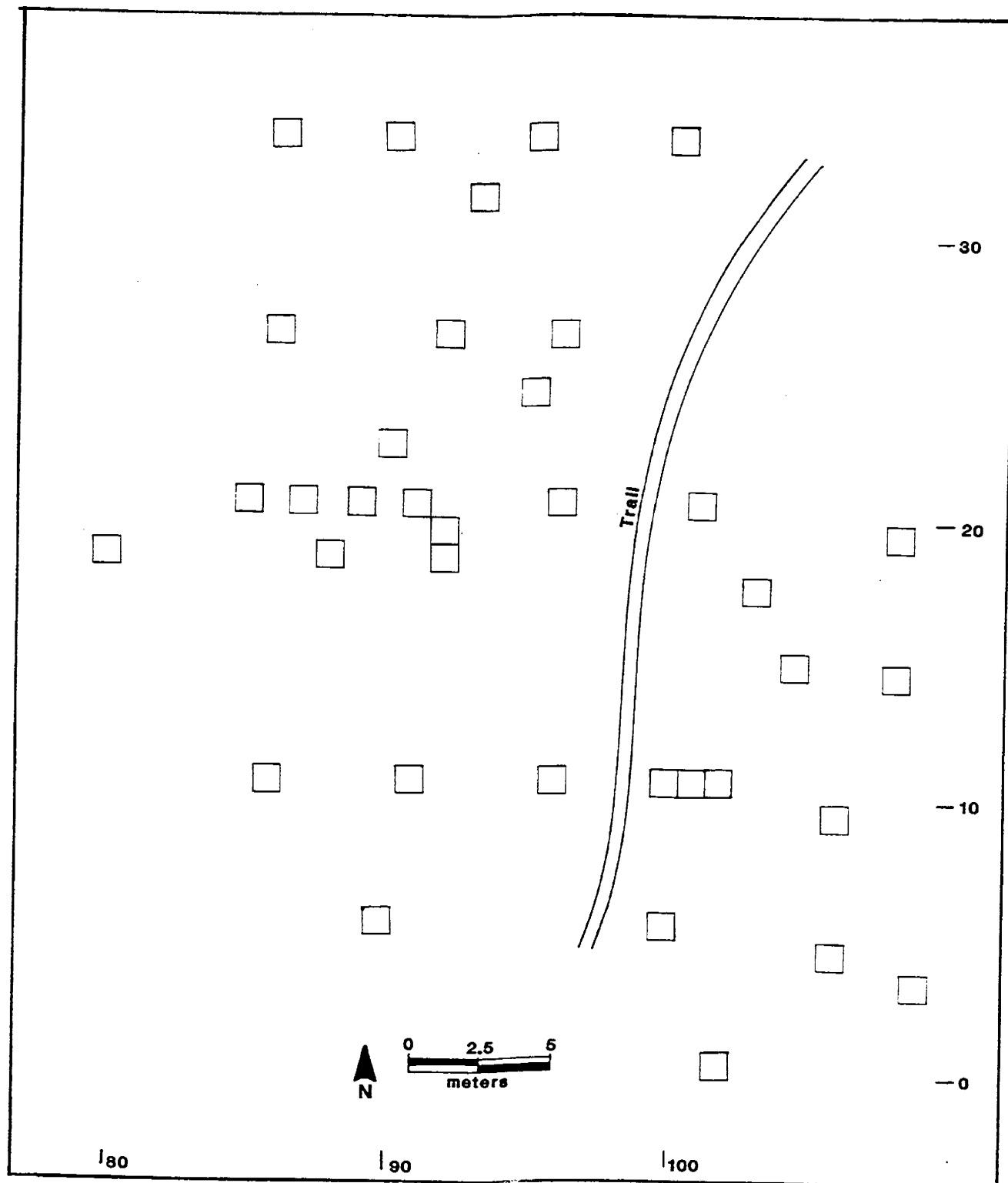


FIGURE 3
7K-C-360 Phase I/II Testing



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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
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1. Name of Propertyhistoric name N/Aother names/site number 7K-C-365A, Dover Downs Site**2. Location**street & number Dover Downs Racetrack, Inc.☐ not for publicationcity, town Dover☐ vicinitystate Delawarecode DEcounty Kentcode 001zip code 19901**3. Classification**

Ownership of Property

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

- ☐ building(s)
☐ district
☒ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

11

Noncontributing

- buildings
 sites
 structures
 objects
 Total

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 0**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this
☐ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National
Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.
☐ removed from the National Register.
☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper _____

Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Landscape: unoccupied land

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____

walls _____

roof _____

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Site 7K-C-365A, the Dover Downs Site, is located on a 250' x 500' sandy knoll in a wooded section of eastern Kent County, Delaware (Figure 1). The knoll axis runs NNW-SSE and the site, which measures about 50' x 112', occupies the upper elevation of the rise (Figure 2). Completely surrounding the base of the knoll are two converging low order streams (headwaters of Muddy Branch), a small swamp, and poorly-drained sections comprised of clayey soils. The site was discovered during the 1987 Phase I cultural resource survey of the U.S. 13 Relief Route (Bachman, Custer, and Grettler, in press). A pedestrian survey revealed that recent tree- and brush-clearing operations by Dover Downs management had caused some disturbance to the ground surface. However, this damage had been spotty and the majority of the ground surface remained intact. Artifacts recovered from the exposed surface and from three 3' x 3' test pits included Wolfe Neck ceramics (500 B.C.), a non-diagnostic teardrop shaped biface of high grade chalcedony, unifacial flake tools, debitage, and fire-cracked rock. The lithic material was almost exclusively high grade cryptocrystallines. The soil stratigraphy included a 2" thick upper sandy loam high in organics overlying a 6" thick layer of yellow silty sand. Beneath this lay reddish-brown sands and silts to 13" below surface, where several inches of reddish-brown gravelly sands were encountered. Artifacts were found to 15" below the surface. The stratigraphy indicated that the knoll had never been plowed and that surface erosion had been minimal.

Based upon the recovered artifacts and the undisturbed context, a Phase II excavation was initiated at the site in October, 1987. The work was designed to determine four aspects of the prehistoric occupation: 1) intensity of occupation, 2) cultural affiliation, 3) chronological position, and 4) site areal limits. To these ends, a two part excavation strategy was employed. A grid of 2 1/2 by 2 1/2 foot square test units was excavated over much of the suspected limits of the site. In addition, part of the site was subjected to intensive excavation by contiguous 5' x 5' squares (Figure 2 - site map). Artifact densities suggested that the area of occupation lay above the 28-foot contour line and measured approximately 50' x 112'. Five prehistoric pit features were encountered in the contiguous area

☒ See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

and three of these were completely excavated. Feature 12 produced debitage and two stemmed points of the Woodland I period and measured four feet deep and five feet in diameter. Feature 13 was found to be actually two overlapping pits which formed a kidney-shaped feature ten feet in length. The central, overlapping, mixed portion was excavated separately from the two distinct ends. The feature was not identified until 1.4 feet of soil had been removed from the test units above it. The excavated levels above the north end produced a Kirk stemmed projectile point of the Paleo-Indian period, which dates to about 7000 B.C. The southern section of the feature itself yielded an Archaic Period bifurcated base point of jasper that dates to about 6500 B.C. Debitage and utilized flakes were also recovered from all three sections of the feature. The last excavated pit, Feature 15, produced cores, debitage, and fire-cracked rock, but no diagnostic artifacts. The remaining two pit features in the contiguous areas were not excavated.

Other significant excavated artifacts were found outside the features. These included a Neville/Stanly-like point (ca. 5000 B.C.), Woodland I stemmed projectile points, Wolfe Neck (Woodland I) and Minguannan (Woodland II) ceramics, and a two-sided mortar which exhibited pecking marks on one side and circular striations on the other, suggesting that each side was used for a distinct function.

The grid of 2 1/2' by 2 1/2' test units also produced features and artifacts in good context. Although none of the features were fully excavated, parts of at least 11 pit features were noted from the 29 test squares excavated from the southern part of the site and the artifact and feature density appears to be every bit as great as the more intensively excavated northern section. Artifacts recovered from the southern end of the site included more Woodland I stemmed points, Wolfe Neck and Minguannan ceramics, lithic debitage, and fire-cracked rock.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☐ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☒ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Archaeology - Prehistoric

Period of Significance

7000 B.C. to A.D. 1650

Significant Dates

Cultural Affiliation

Paleo-Indian

Archaic

Woodland I, Woodland II

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Dover Downs site is significant because it is historically unplowed, it has produced preserved ecofacts in good context, blood residues are present for analysis on recovered stone tools, has produced late Paleo-Indian, Archaic, and Woodland I Period bifaces from subsurface contexts, the associated swamps and stream floodplains have the potential to yield paleoenvironmental data which can be used to gain insights into past environments and the coeval adaptation employed by the site's prehistoric inhabitants, and the site is likely to yield information about the very poorly understood Paleo-Indian and Archaic Periods.

Paleo-Indian and Archaic Period bifaces have been found previously on the Peninsula, but almost all have been surface finds (Thomas 1966; Cresthull 1969, 1975; Custer 1984). The notable exception is a pair of bifurcated base points that were found in excavated contexts at the Morgan Bank site near Stanton, Delaware in 1984 (Scott Watson personal communication, 1988). Large Woodland I sites are located one to two miles east of the Dover Downs site (Custer, Bachman, and Grettler 1986: Appendix II), and it is likely that the Woodland I occupation from this site is related to those sites.

The numbers of features present at the site suggests that data on subsistence, lithic procurement and technology, group size and movement, and site temporal position would likely result from the excavation of the site. To date, only about 13% of the total site has been excavated. Numerous charcoal samples, including wood charcoal and charred nut hulls, have been excavated from the features. Soil and ecofacts from feature fill may also yield data on the natural environments present at the time of occupation and aid in regional paleoenvironmental reconstructions which can be closely correlated with the cultural adaptation. This sort of data would be valuable for all periods

☒ See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

of occupation, and especially for the Paleo-Indian and Archaic Period components, and can be compared with newly acquired comparative data (Whallon 1989, Brush 1989).

Blood residue was found on a 3 of 88 sampled stone tools, while all 104 background contamination samples yielded negative results. Information can be obtained on the use of stone tools in animal butchering tasks apparently conducted at the site and contamination of the tools would not be a problem.

The Dover Downs site data can eventually be compared to the Morgan Bank site, to the Thunderbird and Fifty sites of Virginia (Gardner 1974, 1977, 1979), and to the Shawnee-Minisink site of the Upper Delaware River Valley (McNett 1985), which are the excavated Paleo-Indian and Archaic Period sites nearest to the Dover Downs site. Custer's models on Paleo-Indian settlement and subsistence on the Delmarva could also be tested (Custer 1984; Custer, Ward, and Watson 1986). Custer, Cavallo, and Stewart (1983) suggest that cryptocrystalline lithic outcrops and poorly-drained settings were attractive areas for Paleo-Indian activity. The Dover Downs site setting meets the latter criterion, but it is not near any known lithic sources so this would have to be explained in terms of a broader settlement model. Custer's (1983) and Gardner's (1978) models for Archaic Period site distribution can also be tested. In any event, the Paleo-Indian and Archaic components on the Delmarva Peninsula are so poorly known that any data at all would be valuable.

The Woodland I and II components at Dover Downs can be compared to the numerous sites located downstream on Muddy Run which were systematically collected by Leitzinger and Chapman (Custer, Bachman, and Grettler 1986: Appendix II). These sites reflect a range of Woodland I and II site sizes, settings, tool types, and ceramic styles and the analysis of the Dover Downs data with that series would offer valuable insights into settlement and subsistence in eastern Kent County, a geographic area whose prehistory is poorly understood. Several sites identified by Leitzinger and Chapman also contain small Paleo-Indian and Archaic components, which may also be related to the artifacts found at Dover Downs.

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☒ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)
has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings
Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering
Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 0.14 acres

UTM References

A 18 453980 4338525
Zone Easting Northing

C _____

B _____
Zone Easting Northing

D _____

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

North 1,600' on Kent 88 (Dover-Leipsic Road) from intersection with Persimmon Tree Lane to a point on the east side of Kent 88. West 90° 0' 800' to a stake driven into the crest of the rise, which is pt. A. West 90° 0' 12.5' to pt. B; thence North 90° 0' 44' to pt. C; thence East 90° 0' 50' to pt. D; thence South 90° 0' 120' to point E; thence West 90° 0' 50' to point F; thence North 90° 0' 76' to pt. B. Boundary is polygon formed by Pts. C-D-E-F (See Figure 2).

☐ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Areal limits of prehistoric artifacts on top of knoll

☐ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title David C. Bachman, Research Associate III

organization University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research date 11/7/89

street & number 101 Ewing Hall telephone 302-451-6590

city or town Newark state Delaware zip code 19716

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 3

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FIGURE 1

Site Location:
Dover Downs Site (K-6388A; 7K-C-365A)

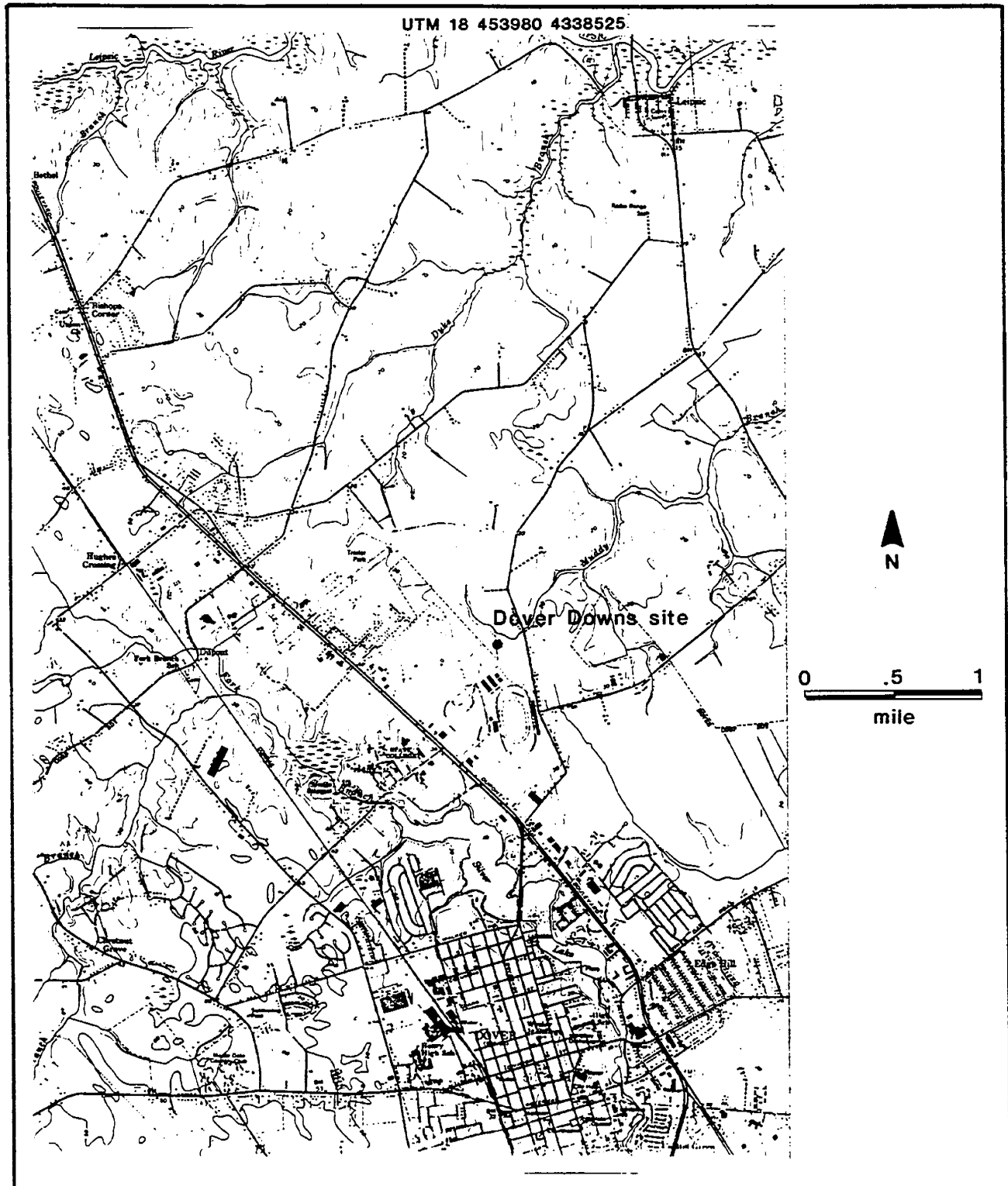


FIGURE 2
 Dover Downs Site
 Excavation Grid, Test Units, Prehistoric Features,
 Nomination Boundary-Rectangle C-D-E-F

